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| APPLICATION NO.                                                               | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.      | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 10/824,250                                                                    | 04/14/2004  | Michael Wai Ho Keong | MCHK/167/US              | 5748             |
| 2543                                                                          | 7590        | 09/20/2005           | EXAMINER                 |                  |
| ALIX YALE & RISTAS LLP<br>750 MAIN STREET<br>SUITE 1400<br>HARTFORD, CT 06103 |             |                      | GRAVINI, STEPHEN MICHAEL |                  |
|                                                                               |             |                      | ART UNIT                 | PAPER NUMBER     |
|                                                                               |             |                      | 3749                     |                  |

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/824,250

Applicant(s)

KEONG, MICHAEL WAI HO

Examiner

Stephen Gravini

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                                |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

Claims 1-6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Slingo (US 6,378,225). Slingo is considered to disclose the claimed invention comprising:

an air outlet aperture across which there is situated at least one electrically isolated thermal-capacitance element **100** configured to moderate air temperature of air exhausted through the nozzle by absorption, retention and re-radiation of thermal energy contained in the air exhausted through the nozzle. Slingo is also considered to disclose the claimed element having opposed ends and the outlet aperture has slots therein into each of which a respective said opposed end is received in figure 1, a pair of said elements in parallel spaced-spaced interrelationship in figure 2, an element is made of a material selected from the group consisting of ceramic, metal and glass at column 2 line 41, and an integrally formed nozzle with a hairdryer body at column 1 line 5.

Claims 9 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan (US 5,628,123). Chan is considered to disclose the claimed invention comprising:

an air outlet aperture across which there is situated at least one electrically isolated thermal-capacitance element **20** configured to moderate air temperature of air exhausted through the nozzle by absorption, retention and re-radiation of thermal

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energy contained in the air exhausted through the nozzle, said nozzle defining a central axis through said outlet aperture **2** and comb teeth **3** projecting from said nozzle in a generally parallel orientation to said central axis including an integrally formed nozzle with a hairdryer body and as a hair dryer attachment.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Claims 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slingo in view of Chan. Slingo is considered to disclose the claimed invention, as discussed above under the anticipatory rejection, except for the claimed comb teeth extension. It would have been an obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Slingo with comb teeth extension, considered to be taught in Cantor at column 2 line 62 through column 3 line 30, for the purpose of allowing hair dryer manipulation of the drying subject intended to be transactionally related.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Gravini whose telephone number is 571 272 4875. The examiner can normally be reached on normal weekday business hours (east coast time).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica S. Carter can be reached on 571 272 4475. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SMG  
September 15, 2005

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen Gaim".